

COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

85 Industrial Tract
Hudson, NY 12534
24 Hr Dispatch (518)828-3344
Fax (518)828-9088



Press Release

SHERIFF DAVID P. Bartlett

Contact: Lieutenant Wayne Lopez
(518) 828-0601 Ext. 1404

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 04, 2015

SHERIFF'S OFFICE INVESTIGATES HOUSE EXPLOSION AND FIRE

Valatie, NY- Sheriff David P. Bartlett reports that this morning at approximately 11:20am, Columbia County 911 dispatched Valatie Fire Department to 4101 Elm Street in the Village of Valatie for a reported house explosion and fire. Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched shortly after to respond to the scene.

Deputies found that there was some type of explosion that occurred and the fire that was originally reported was already out. There was a male inside the residence at the time of the explosion, who reported that he was uninjured. There was significant structural damage to the residence.

Currently, Sheriff's Office Investigators, the Columbia County Fire Coordinators Office under the direction of Fire Coordinator John Howe, and Investigators from New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control are conducting a joint investigation in determining the cause of the explosion.

The investigation is continuing and further information will be released as it becomes available.

Also assisting at the scene were Valatie Rescue Squad, Niverville Fire Department, Valatie Water Department, and the Building Inspector.

Investigating for the Sheriff's Office were Sheriff David P. Bartlett, Undersheriff John Davi, Captain John DeRocha, Sr. Investigator William Foster, Investigator Mark Dunspaugh, Sergeant Eli Fieser, and Deputy Louis Bray.